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AUBURN METH TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON

Gulf Coast Hidta Stems Auburn Meth Supply

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA – Carey Terrell Orr, 33, of Roanoke, Alabama, and David Ray, 33, of Savannah, Georgia, were sentenced by United States District Judge William Keith Watkins for their roles in an organized methamphetamine distribution ring operating between Atlanta, Georgia, Auburn/Opelika, and Montgomery, Alabama, Leura G. Canary, United States Attorney for the Middle District of Alabama, announced today.

In May, 2007, Orr and Ray, along with three other individuals, were named in a twenty-count federal indictment charging conspiracy and distribution of methamphetamine. According to the indictment, from August 2004 until October 2005, Carey Terrell Orr, David Ray, Kyle Bailey, and brothers Judson and Joshua Cox participated in a conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine. In addition to conspiracy, the indictment charged Joshua Cox, Orr and Bailey with specific acts of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. In February 2008, all defendants pleaded guilty before United States Magistrate Judge Wallace Capel. According to their plea agreements, the defendants acknowledged that they were responsible for distributing between 15 and 20 pounds of methamphetamine between August 2004 and October 2005. According to defendant David Ray, the total street value of the methamphetamine was estimated at 1.2 million dollars.

Last month, David Ray was sentenced to 120 months (10 years) imprisonment for his role in the conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Ray's federal sentence is to be served consecutive to a lengthy drug sentence he is already serving in the State of Georgia. Although Ray operated out of Atlanta, Georgia, and never stepped foot inside Alabama, investigators established that he supplied methamphetamine knowing that it was destined for the Auburn/Opelika area.

Today, Carey Terrell Orr was sentenced to 160 months (13 years) imprisonment for his role in the conspiracy and his distribution of methamphetamine. All other defendants will be sentenced later this month.

According to United States Attorney Leura Canary, "This case was particularly troubling because this drug trafficking organization sought to supply a college town with methamphetamine. The good work of the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Montgomery Task Force stemmed the tide of methamphetamine intended for our students. Federal prosecutors and investigators are committed to combating the scourge of methamphetamine, especially near our schools and universities."

The case was investigated by the Gulf Coast HIDTA, particularly the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, the Alabama Bureau of Investigation, the Millbrook Police Department and the Auburn Police Department. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Verne H. Speirs.